Amendments to the Claims:

1 1. (original) A method for automatically generating a network replication topology for

2 use by a directory service in replicating a directory, comprising the computer-

3 implemented steps of:

4 reading a plurality of router configuration files; and

5 generating the network replication topology representing one or more sites and one or

6 more site links based on information in the plurality of router configuration

7 files.

1 2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information in the plurality of router

2 configuration files includes router interface information and the step of generating the

3 network topology is performed based on the router interface information.

1 3. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of generating the

2 network topology comprises:

3 determining at least one site by identifying a sub-network on a Local Area Network

4 (LAN) interface; and

5 generating a site reference for each site.

1 4. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of generating the

2 network topology comprises:

3 determining at least one site link by identifying a Wide Area Network (WAN)

4 interface; and

5 generating a site link reference for each site link.

1   5.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating the

2   network topology comprises:

3   determining at least one site by identifying a router interface with a bandwidth

4   exceeding a predefined threshold value; and

5   generating a site reference for each site.

1   6.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating the

2   network topology comprises:

3   determining at least one site link by identifying a router interface with a bandwidth

4   not exceeding a predefined threshold value; and

5   generating a site link reference for each site link.

1   7.   (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating the

2   network topology comprises:

3   determining at least one site link by identifying a router interface with a packet round-

4   trip-time exceeding a predefined threshold value; and

5   generating a site link reference for each site link.

1   8.   (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising a computer-implemented step of:

2   reading preprocessing information, the preprocessing information including override

3   information for nullifying the information associated with a same one or more

4   sites or site links from the plurality of router configuration files, wherein the

5   network topology is generated based additionally on the override information.

1   9.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of reading a plurality of router

2   configuration files includes reading from a network management system.

1   10.   (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of reading a plurality of router

2   configuration files includes reading from a router query result.

1   11.   (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the computer-implemented steps

2   of:

3   storing the replication topology in a database; and

4   copying the replication topology from the database to the directory service.

1   12.   (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the directory service is Active Directory

2   and the one or more site links is an Active Directory site link.

1   13.   (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the directory service is Active Directory

2   and the one or more sites is an Active Directory site.

1   14.   (original) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of

2   instructions for automatically generating a network topology for a directory service,

3   wherein execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more

4   processors causes the one or more processors to perform steps of:

5   reading router interface information from a plurality of router configuration files;

6   generating the network topology representing one or more network sites and one or

7   more network site links based on the router interface information.

1   15.   (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein execution of the one or

2   more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more

3   processors to perform the step of generating the network topology by causing the one

4   or more processors to perform a step of:

5   generating at least one site reference by identifying a sub-network on a Local Area

6   Network (LAN) interface.

1   16.   (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein execution of the one or

2   more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more

3   processors to perform the step of generating the network topology by causing the one

4   or more processors to perform steps of:

5   generating at least one site link reference by identifying a Wide Area Network (WAN)

6   interface.

1   17.   (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein execution of the one or

2   more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more

3   processors to perform the steps of:

4   storing the replication topology in a database; and

5   copying the replication topology from the database to the directory service.

1   18.   (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the directory service is

2   Active Directory and the one or more site links is an Active Directory site link.

1   19.   (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the directory service is

2   Active Directory and the one or more sites is an Active Directory site.

1　20.　(currently amended) A computer system that ~~can~~ automatically generate<u>s</u> a network

2　replication topology for use by a directory service in replicating a directory, the

3　system comprising:

4　a network interface; and

5　one or more processors connected to the network interface, the one or more

6　　　processors configured for

7　reading router interface information from a plurality of router configuration files;

8　generating a network topology representing one or more network sites and one or

9　　　more network site links based on the router interface information.

1　21.　(original) The computer system of claim 20 wherein the network topology is

2　generated for use with a directory service and the one or more processors are further

3　configured for generating the network topology by generating one or more network

4　site references by identifying a sub-network on a Local Area Network (LAN)

5　interface.

1　22.　(original) The computer system of claim 20 wherein the network topology is

2　generated for use with a directory service and the one or more processors are further

3　configured for generating the network topology by generating one or more site link

4　references by identifying a Wide Area Network (WAN) interface.

1　23.　(original) The computer system of claim 20 wherein the network topology is

2　generated for use with a directory service and the one or more processors are further

3　configured for:

4   storing the replication topology in a database; and

5   copying the replication topology from the database to the directory service.

1 24.   (currently amended) An apparatus that ~~can~~ automatically generates a network

2   topology for use in replicating a directory associated with a directory service, the

3   apparatus comprising:

4   means for reading a plurality of router configuration files; and

5   means for generating the network topology representing one or more sites and one or

6   more site links based on information in the plurality of router configuration

7   files.

1 25.   (original) The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:

2   means for determining at least one site by identifying a sub-network on a Local Area

3   Network (LAN) interface.

1 26.   (original) The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:

2   means for determining at least one site link by identifying a Wide Area Network

3   (WAN) interface.

1 27.   (original) The apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:

2   means for storing the replication topology in a database; and

3   means for copying the replication topology from the database to the directory service.

1 28.   (new) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

2   reading a list of one or more router names from a source, wherein the source is a

3   network management system, a database, or a router query result;

4   generating a router name from the router configuration file associated with each of the

5   one or more routers;

6   comparing the one or more router names from the router configuration files to the list

7   of one or more router names from the source, and

8   upon a router name from the router configuration files not being in the list of one or

9   more router names from the source, generating an exception.

1   29.   (new) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

2   generating a temporary site name for each router name from the router configuration

3   file associated with each of the one or more routers; and

4   associating each of the one or more site references determined from the router

5   configuration file associated with each of the one or more routers with the

6   temporary site name for the associated router.

1   30.   (new) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

2   generating a partial site link for each of the one or more site link references

3   determined from the router configuration file associated with each of the one

4   or more routers; and

5   associating each partial site link with the temporary site name for the associated

6   router.

1   31.   (new) The method of claim 30, further comprising:

2   generating a sub-network reference based on each of one or more "ip route"

3   commands in the router configuration file associated with each of the one or

4   more routers; and

5   associating each sub-network reference with the temporary site name for the

6   associated router.

1   32.   (new) The computer-readable medium of Claim 14, wherein the instructions, when

2   executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

3   reading preprocessing information, the preprocessing information including override

4   information for nullifying information associated with one or more sites or

5   one or more site links from one or more router configuration files;

6   wherein generating the network topology is based additionally on the override

7   information.

1   33.   (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 32, wherein the instructions, when

2   executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

3   reading a list of one or more router names from a source, wherein the source is a

4   network management system, a database, or a router query result;

5   generating a router name from the router configuration file associated with each of the

6   one or more routers;

7   comparing the one or more router names from the router configuration files to the list

8   of one or more router names from the source, and

9   upon a router name from the router configuration files not being in the list of one or

10   more router names from the source, generating an exception.

1   34.   (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, wherein the instructions, when

2   executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

3   generating a temporary site name for each router name from the router configuration

4   file associated with each of the one or more routers; and

5   associating each of the one or more site references determined from the router

6   configuration file associated with each of the one or more routers with the

7   temporary site name for the associated router.

1   35.   (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the instructions, when

2   executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

3   generating a partial site link for each of the one or more site link references

4   determined from the router configuration file associated with each of the one

5   or more routers; and

6   associating each partial site link with the temporary site name for the associated

7   router.

1   36.   (new) The computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the instructions, when

2   executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform:

3   generating a sub-network reference based on each of one or more "ip route"

4   commands in the router configuration file associated with each of the one or

5   more routers; and

6   associating each sub-network reference with the temporary site name for the

7   associated router.

1   37.   (new) The computer system of Claim 20, wherein the one or more processors are

2   further configured for:

3   reading preprocessing information, the preprocessing information including override

4   information for nullifying information associated with one or more sites or

5   one or more site links from one or more router configuration files; and

6   wherein generating the network topology is based additionally on the override

7   information.

1   38.   (new) The apparatus of Claim 20, further comprising:

2   means for reading preprocessing information, the preprocessing information including

3   override information for nullifying information associated with one or more sites

4   or one or more site links from one or more router configuration files; and

5   wherein the means for generating the network topology comprises means for generating

6   the network topology based additionally on the override information.